



# CITY OF CHICOPEE

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS



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### **IS YOUR SUMP PUMP AND ROOF DRAIN CONNECTED ILLEGALLY?**

The City of Chicopee Wastewater Treatment Plant experiences substantial wastewater flow increases during rain events. Increased flow to the plants results in wastewater capacity being consumed; thereby potentially preventing sewer needed connections, and increased operational expense to treat this clean water. A contributing factor in this high flow is known to be illegally connected sump pumps and roof drains. City Code Section 230-13 Connection Discharge of Storm Water states: "No person shall make any connection of roof downspouts, exterior foundation drains, areaway drains, storm water, subsurface drainage, uncontaminated cooling water, or unpolluted process waters, or other sources or surface runoff or groundwater to a building sewer or building drain which in turn is connected directly or indirectly to a public sewer or combined sewer."

"Storm water and all other unpolluted drainage shall be discharged to a natural outlet if such outlet is reasonably accessible. If no such outlet is available, such unpolluted wastes may be discharged in combined sewers or storm sewers if approved by the Superintendent."

Please note, if your building or residence has a sump pump or roof drain connected to the city sewer system, you are in violation of the City Code, and these connections must be removed from the sewer and re-directed to an appropriate location. Should you need guidance as to where the appropriate location may be, feel free to call the Chicopee Department of Public Works Wastewater Department 413-594-3585.

Be advised that the City is embarking on an inspection program to detect illegally connected sump pumps and roof drains.

## Water Pollution Control